



## Welcome to 5th Grade!

Summer 2023

Dear Parents,

*Welcome to 5th Grade at The Franklin School of Innovation!* We are excited to get to know you and introduce you to how we do school at Franklin. For those of you with older students attending Franklin, you may recognize three familiar faces on the 5th grade team, Mr. Pauley (Social Studies), Mrs. Ryan (Science), and Mrs. Brittany Davenport (EC). We are adding two new members to our team, Mr. Jared Gallow (ELA), who is coming to us from 7th grade, and Mr. Kyle Guzinski, who will be teaching math. Beyond introducing ourselves and saying, "Welcome!" We also want to take this opportunity to overview some expectations we have for our students and families, and in turn let you know what you can expect from us.

***From students***, we expect everyone to help contribute to a positive classroom culture. A positive classroom culture is one where we speak and listen respectfully, maintain a growth mindset, arrive prepared to work and learn, and take care of our campus and materials. We expect students to follow the dress code and guidelines of our school, and to show every adult at school the same respect they show their classroom teachers.

***From our parents***, we ask for your patience and support as much as you can offer it. We are entirely committed to the success of every child, and our goals are the same as yours - we want the best for your child! We will have around one hundred students to work with each day, and concerns, conflicts, and needs will arise. Let us show students that we are working together towards common goals, and provide a model of cooperation throughout the year.

***From your teachers***, you should expect us to know your child as an individual. We will strive to make personal connections with every student, to know their strengths and weaknesses, and to push every student towards academic and personal growth. You can expect us to make decisions based upon your child's best interest and to get timely communication from us when a concern arises. You can expect us to support, guide, encourage, model the values and behaviors we teach, and challenge students to do more than they ever thought they could.

We are very excited to kick off what we hope will be the best year yet at Franklin. Below you will find a brief introduction from each of your core teachers.

## **English-Language Arts**

Students in ELA and Social Studies classes can expect to be challenged daily to analyze, describe, compare, revise, develop, organize, collaborate, and reflect. Students will read and write daily in addition to participating in classroom discussions and activities. In reading, we will emphasize the concepts of reading deeply, gathering evidence, and analyzing text. In writing, we will emphasize sentence, paragraph, and essay structure; incorporation of quotations, and clarity of message. The content standards for 5th grade ELA and Social Studies create many opportunities for cross-curricular instruction and projects.

## **Social Studies**

Social Studies content builds on previous studies of state and local government/history and transitions to a broader understanding of those topics on the national level. Students will learn a comprehensive, inclusive, and ethical approach to United States history. Major topics covered will be Native American history, European exploration/colonization and its effects, Revolutionary War and the creation/function of our government, the causes of the Civil War, the Industrial Revolution, and Civil Rights.

## **Science**

Fifth grade junior scientists will do the work of scientists by forming evidence-based explanations and designing and conducting experiments. Students can expect to apply their growing knowledge through projects and labs, often working collaboratively. Our curriculum explores life science, force and motion, and weather. We will build a foundation of inquiry skills that students will expand upon each year at Franklin.

## **Math**

In fifth grade math, students will build on previous mathematical knowledge and investigate new topics such as order of operations, volume, and graphing on a coordinate plane. Some core fifth grade math skills also include multiplying and dividing with multi-digit numbers, decimals, and fractions as well as adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators. Students will regularly apply their mathematical knowledge to real world problems and learn multiple ways to solve equations. Students will frequently use math to better understand science concepts. For example, we will investigate the use of place value and decimals by using the metric system to collect data and use graphs to analyze experimental results.

## **Resource and Inclusion (IEP/504)**

Students will continue to work towards goals through their current Individual Education Program if applicable. This will include both resource and inclusion time stated in the service minutes agreed upon for each student who falls in this category. Students can expect to work in small-groups and/or one-on-one to gain skills necessary to accomplish each goal. These resource/inclusion times will be scheduled throughout the week for each student while incorporating their accommodations and modifications.

## **Assessments and Character Development**

In all fifth grade core classes, we will focus extensively on FSI's Habits of Scholarship to develop lifelong learning skills, including organization and communication skills. A student's grade will be a culmination of classwork, assessments, projects, and the contents of their notebook/binder.

## **5th Grade Readiness and Summer Preparation**

Research indicates that many students will experience a decline in academic growth on summer vacation. To ensure that our students start school prepared to learn, they should engage in academic material over break.

We encourage rising 5th graders to read every night. Reading a variety of genres, reading aloud, and talking about what they're reading will help keep their minds engaged. **Please see the reading list below for suggested age-appropriate books.**

It is essential for students to arrive the first day already knowing their multiplication facts. Students should practice them daily this summer to be prepared to build on this skill throughout fifth grade math. These [math cards](#) are a great resource for practicing multiplication in a way that promotes mathematical understanding and number fluency.

We encourage students to keep a weekly **nature journal** this summer and write or sketch what they see, hear, and observe around them. By observing closely through writing or drawing, they hone their observation skills and descriptive writing skills. This practice can help students find a sense of calm by focusing on the present. They can turn in their nature journal to science class for extra credit at the beginning of the fall semester.

**Finally**, thank you for choosing to entrust our team with your child's education. We can't wait to get to know them and to watch them grow. Please feel free to be in touch with us as needs arise and we will do the same. There is also a school supplies list attached. It's going to be an exceptional year!

All the best,

Mr. Chris Pauley

Mrs. Jenn Ryan

Mrs. Brittany Davenport

Mr. Jared Gallow

Mr. Kyle Guzinski

## 5th Grade School Supply List

### Required - for individual student use:

- 2 3-ring binders (for math and ELA)
- 1 single subject notebook (for math)
- 1 composition notebooks (for science)
- 1 three-subject spiral notebook (for math)
- 2 durable two-pocket folders (one for homework, one for social studies)
- Water bottle with a screw top lid
- Pencil pouch with
  - 12-24 #2 pencils
  - Eraser
  - Highlighter
  - 12-pack colored pencils
  - Scissors (youth or adult)
  - Handheld pencil sharpener
  
- Headphones - earbuds or over-ear; expensive sets that might be easily damaged should not be sent.
  
- For Art class:
  - -#2 pencil x 2
  - -white art eraser
  - -2 or more fine tip sharpies
  - -2 or more broad tip sharpies
  - -1 container disinfectant wipes
  - -1 roll paper towels
  - \*These supplies will be combined with many other supplies and equipment provided by the school such as clay, paint, pastels, papers, markers and more!

### **Core Classroom Supplies Wishlist** (optional, shared supplies for the classroom)

- Clorox Wipes
- Gallon Ziplock bags
- Extra pencils
- Tissues
- Whiteboard markers
- Sharpies

## **Art Classroom supplies wishlist**

*Our Wish list, if you would like to donate to help Visual Arts and families in need at FSI:*

- -Colored Sharpies
- -Fine tip black Sharpies
- -Broad tip black Sharpies
- -Prismacolor colored pencils
- -Ebony pencils
- -Oil pastels
- -Chalk pastels
- -11x17 copy paper
- -white art erasers
- -#2 pencils
- -Micron Pens any size
- -Facial Tissues
- -Disinfectant wipes
- -Hand sanitizer

**Fees:** There is a one-time \$15.00 consumables fee, which covers things like expedition materials, science labs, supplemental reading books, workbooks and other instructional consumable materials. The school will send out invoices for the consumables fee through email at the beginning of the school year which can be paid online or by cash or check.

Field trips generally require additional fees.

## **Note about supplies**

Materials on this list do not need to be new, just in good working shape. Feel free to reuse materials from previous years that students already have. Please consider, if you are able, donating an extra bag of supplies for those who cannot.

If you are not able to afford supplies, please email the grade level lead, Chris Pauley at [cpauley@thefsi.us](mailto:cpauley@thefsi.us) to let us know. We will do our best to provide supplies to any child that is not able to afford them. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Chris Pauley (Social Studies)

Mrs. Jenn Ryan (Science)

Mrs. Brittany Davenport (EC)

Mr. Jared Gallow (ELA)

Mr. Kyle Guzinski (Math)

## Suggested 5th/6th Grade Summer Reading Choices

### Award Winners:

[Moon Over Manifest](#)

by Clare Vanderpool

[Out of the Dust](#)

by Karen Hesse

[Kira-Kira](#)

by Cynthia Kadohata

[The Higher Power of Lucky](#)

by Susan Patron *Illustrated by* Matt Phelan

[The Graveyard Book](#)

by Neil Gaiman *Illustrated by* Dave McKean

[When You Reach Me](#)

by Rebecca Stead

[Dead End in Norvelt](#)

by Jack Gantos

[Mockingbird](#)

by Kathryn Erskine

[When Zachary Beaver Came to Town](#)

by Kimberly Willis Holt

### Classics and Favorites:

[Charlotte's Web](#)

by E. B. White

[Matilda](#)

by Roald Dahl

[Number the Stars](#)

by Lois Lowry

[Maniac Magee](#)

by Jerry Spinelli

[Tuck Everlasting](#)

by Natalie Babbitt

[Island of the Blue Dolphins](#)

by Scott O'Dell

[DRAGONWINGS](#)

by Laurence Yep

[A Long Way From Chicago](#)

by Richard Peck

### Nonfiction:

[GUYS READ: TRUE STORIES](#)

by Various

[HARRIET TUBMAN](#)

by Ann Petry

[RED SCARF GIRL](#)

by Ji-li Jiang

*\*In light of our current societal situation these days, the following titles highlight the diversity and equity in which our school firmly believes. These titles are by no means comprehensive. They're just a place to start and get students thinking.*

[The Parker Inheritance](#)

by Varian Johnson

[No Fixed Address](#)

by Susin Nielsen

[Return to Sender](#)

by Julia Alvarez

[The Season of Styx Malone](#)

by Kekla Magoon

[Amina's Voice](#)

by Hena Khan

[Amal Unbound](#)

by Aisha Saeed

**Or check out amazing middle grade titles by one these authors!**

Richard Peck  
Christopher Paul Curtis  
JK Rowling  
Cynthia Rylant  
Lois Lowry  
James Patterson  
Rick Riordan

Jerry Spinelli  
Gary Paulsen  
Raina Telgemeier  
Neil Gaiman  
Carl Hiaasen